

Message Text

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51
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 (ISO) W
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R 251500Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3892
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMCONSUL DURBAN

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0363

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS :PINT,SF
SUBJ :STOCKTAKING AFTER CRC NO CONFIDENCE VOTE
REF :CAPE TOWN 0360

1. CRC'S MOTION OF NO CONFIDENCE IN SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT 'AND ALL ITS INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING THE COLORED PERSONS REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL' (REFTEL) HAS CAUSED CONSIDERABLE DISARRAY WITHIN CRC AND HAS OCCASIONED MEDIA CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT OVER ITS FAILURE TO RESOLVE FUTURE OF SOUTH AFRICAN COLOREDS.

2. FOLLOWING VOTE, CHAIRMAN OF CRC EXECUTIVE AND FEDERAL PARTY LEADER TOM SWARTZ SAID HE WOULD SEEK MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF COLORED RELATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, OSTENSIBLY IN EFFORT TO RESOLVE CRISIS. HOWEVER, LEADER OF OPPOSITION, SONNY LEON, CHALLENGED HIS RIGHT TO DO SO STATING 'WE ARE IN POSITION OF COMMAND NOW.' IN APPARENT EFFORT TO RETAIN HIS LEADERSHIP, WHICH HAS BEEN CLEARLY WEAKENED BY JULY 24 EVENTS IN CRC, SWARTZ MAINTAINED THAT ALL GROUPS IN CRC WERE IN AGREEMENT OVER NEED FOR COLORED REPRESENTATION IN THE CENTRAL PARLIAMENT BUT SUFFERED ONLY IN APPROACHES.

3. ARGUS EDITORIALIZED THAT, ALTHOUGH IT IS HEAVY BLOW FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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GOVERNMENT POLICY, NONE SHOULD BE SURPRISED OVER SUCCESS OF

NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN CLEAR THAT MAJORITY OF COLORED PEOPLE PREFER AN EARLY END TO APARTHEID RATHER THAN WORKING WITHIN AN APARTHEID FRAMEWORK AS SECOND-CLASS CITIZENS. ARGUS, QUOTING MINISTER MULDER AS HAVING RECENTLY SAID THAT COLORED PEOPLE WOULD NEVER- 'NOT NOW OR IN THE FUTURE'- GET REPRESENTATION IN THE WHITE PARLIAMENT, MAKES POINT THAT GOVERNMENT POLICY NOW GIVES COLOREDS NO PROSPECT OF FULL CITIZENSHIP OR A VOICE IN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNTRY OF WHICH THEY ARE A PERMANENT, INERADICABLE PART AND CALLS FOR AN END TO 'THIS NONSENSE'. TRANSVAAL NATIONALIST NEWSPAPER, DIE VADERLAND, COMMENTS THAT EVENTS IN CRC APPEAR TO BE INEVITABLE FRUITS OF YEARS OF WHITE INDECISION OVER FUTURE OF THE COLORED PEOPLE AND THAT COLORED QUESTION CANNOT BE LEFT TO FUTURE GENERATIONS.

4. COMMENT: NO CONFIDENCE VOTE WILL INCREASE PRESSURES ON GOVERNMENT TO TAKE A FRESH LOOK AT FUTURE OF SOUTH AFRICAN COLOREDS AND WILL CLEARLY ENCOURAGE CRITICS OF GOVERNMENTS ATTITUDE TOWARD COLOREDS TO DEMAND A MORE FORTHRIGHT POLICY THAT BRINGS COLOREDS MORE INTO POLITICAL MAINSTREAM.

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